

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-22 are pending in the above-identified application. New claims 21 and 22 have been added.

Claims 1, 15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being unpatentable over Aoyagi. Claim 1 is amended to include,

- ... a first sealing member covering a first circuit block of the plurality of circuit blocks ...
- ... a second sealing member covering a second circuit block of the plurality of circuit blocks
- a first conductive film covering at least a surface of the first sealing member; and
- a second conductive film covering at least a surface of the second sealing member

Basis for these amendments may be found, for example, in the specification at Figure 1.

Applicants' exemplary embodiment includes a first sealing member 14 (shown at the left side of Fig. 1(S104)) and a second sealing member 14 (shown at the right side of Fig. 1 (S102)). The first sealing member 14 is "...covering a first circuit block..." to the left of the partition 13. The second sealing member 14 is "...covering a second circuit block..." to the right of the partition 13. The first conductive film 16 is "...covering at least a surface of the first sealing member..." The second conductive film is covering "...at least a surface of the second sealing member..."

Aoyagi includes a substrate 1, a partition 5, a plurality of circuit blocks 4 and a **single sealing member** (Ild) 10 (Fig. 3). Aoyagi also discloses a conductive layer (film) 13 covering the sealing member 10. (Office Action, page 2). Aoyagi does not disclose "...**a first sealing member**..." and "...**a second sealing member**...". Further, the conductive layer 13 in Aoyagi is a **single continuous conductive film** covering the single sealing member 10 and the plurality of circuit blocks. Thus, Aoyagi does not disclose "...**a first conductive film** covering at least a surface of the first sealing

member..." or "...**a second conductive film** covering at least a surface of the second sealing member," as recited in claim 1.

Thus, claim 1 is allowable over the art of record. Claim 15 depends from claim 1. Accordingly, claim 15 is also allowable over the art of record.

Claim 17, while not identical to claim 1, includes features similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. Thus, claim 17 is also allowable over the art of record for reasons similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1.

Claims 2-3, 5, 8-10, 13-14, 16 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aoyagi and Tsuneoka et al. Aoyagi is described above,

Tsuneoka et al. discloses a conductive film 20 covering sealing member 40. Tsuneoka et al. also discloses a partition 70 dividing the plurality of circuit blocks. (Fig. 6). The conductive film 20 in Tsuneoka et al. is, however, a **single continuous** conductive film covering the plurality of circuit blocks. That is, the partition 70 does not separate the single continuous conductive film 20 into first and second conductive films. Thus, Tsuneoka et al. does not disclose "...**a first conductive film** covering at least a surface of the first sealing member..." and "...**a second conductive film** covering at least a surface of the first sealing member..."

Thus, Tsuneoka et al. also does not disclose the features of claims 1 and 17. Claims 2-3, 5, 8-10, 13-14 and 16 depend from claim 1. Claim 20 depends from claim 17. Thus, these claims are submitted for allowance for the reasons described above with respect to their base claims.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aoyagi and Tsuneoka et al. and Warren et al. Aoyagi and Tsuneoka et al. are described above. Warren et al. does not disclose the features of claim 1 missing from Aoyagi and Tsuneoka et al. Claim 4 depends from claim 1. Thus, claim 4 is also allowable over the art of record.

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aoyagi and Tsuneoka et al., Warren et al. and Oda. Aoyagi, Tsuneoka et al. and Oda are described above. Oda does not disclose the features of claim 1 missing from Aoyagi and Tsuneoka et al and Warren. Claim 6 depends from claim 1. Thus, claim 6 is also allowable over the art of record.

Claim 7 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aoyagi, Oda and Witty. Aoyagi and Oda are described above. Witty does not disclose the features of claim 1 missing from Aoyagi and Oda. Claim 7 depends from claim 1. Thus, claim 7 is also allowable over the art of record.

Claims 11-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aoyagi, Witty and Learmonth. Aoyagi and Witty are described above. Learmonth does not disclose the features of claim 1 missing from Aoyagi and Witty. Claims 11-12 depend from claim 1. Thus, claims 11-12 are also allowable over the art of record.

Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aoyagi, Learmonth and Napolitano. Aoyagi and Learmonth are described above. Napolitano does not disclose the features of claim 17 missing from Aoyagi and Learmonth. Claim 18 depends from claim 17. Thus, claim 18 is also allowable over the art of record.

Claim 19 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Aoyagi, Napolitano and Percival. Aoyagi and Napolitano are described above. Percival does not disclose the features of claim 17 missing from Aoyagi and Napolitano. Claim 19 depends from claim 17. Thus, claim 19 is also allowable over the art of record.

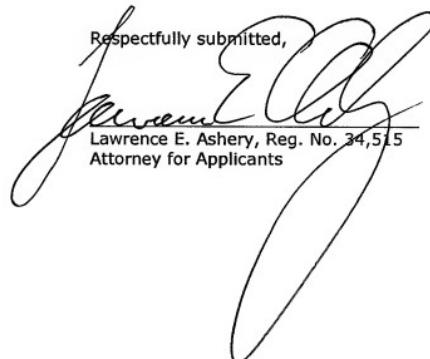
New claims 21 and 22 have been added. Basis for these claims may be found, for example, in the specification at Figure 1.

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In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this Application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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